PROCLAMATION

Today, California is honored to join all Americans in celebrating the most important day in our history, the day in which our Founding Fathers boldly declared our independence. Although our country has gone through many changes in the past 233 years, we still continue the great legacy of these revolutionaries. We are innovative, hard-working and determined, and we stand true to our beliefs and values.

One of our nation's traditional mottos, E pluribus unum, translates to "Out of many, one." This line reflects the greatness of our people. While we come from different backgrounds, different states and have different stories, we all work together for the common good of our homeland. Our diversity is something we are proud of, and through our unity we are strengthened.

As we recognize our country's founding, let us also remember the many people who have worked so hard for our freedom, whether it be those who fought during the American Revolution or our service men and women who defend our liberty today in faraway lands. Their courage and commitment to duty is an inspiration to us all, and I thank them for their sacrifice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim July 4, 2009, as "Independence Day."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 23rd day of June 2009.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

Governor of California

ATTEST:

DEBRA BOWEN Secretary of State